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Senate

(Legislative day of Wednesday, March 13, 1996)

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, whose chosen dwelling is the mind that is completely open to You and the heart that is unreservedly responsive to You, we thank You that our desire to find You is because You have already found us. Our prayers are not to get Your attention, but because You have our attention. You always are beforehand with us with preventent, providential initiative. Our longing to know Your will is because You have wisdom and guidance prepared to impart to us. You place before us people and their problems and potentials because You want to bless them through our prayers for them and what You want us to do and say to encourage and uplift them.

The challenges before us today dilate our mind's eye because You have solutions ready to unfold and implement through us. You consistently know what we need before we ask You. Keep our minds riveted on You and our wills responsive to Your direction. We do want Your best in everything for our beloved Nation. Bless the Senators and all who work with them as they seek to keep America good, so that she may continue to be great for Your glory. In Your holy name, Father. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able acting majority leader, Senator LOTT, is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Thank you, Mr. President. For the information of our colleagues,

today the Senate will immediately resume consideration of H.R. 3019, the continuing resolution appropriations bill. Under the order that was agreed to, Senator MURRAY of Washington will offer the timber amendment under a 2½ hour time limitation. As a reminder, the Senate will begin 30 minutes of debate regarding the White-water resolution at 1:30 p.m. today, with a cloture vote on a motion to proceed to that resolution occurring at 2 p.m. Senators, therefore, can expect there will be recorded votes throughout the day, and we hope to complete action on the continuing resolution today if at all possible.

I urge my colleagues to take a serious look at the time we have spent on this omnibus appropriations bill. We have been on it since Monday. We really do need to go forward with this legislation. We have a large number of amendments pending on both sides of the aisle. I hope that Senators who are really serious about going forward with amendments will let us know soon. I intend to work with the Democratic leader to see if we cannot begin to get some understanding of what amendments will be offered.

I plead with my colleagues, let us get this work done. Also, we want to do it but we are going to have to do something a lot different than we have been doing or we will not be able to complete this until next week.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CAMPBELL). Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

BALANCED BUDGET DOWNPAYMENT ACT, II

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair lays before the Senate H.R. 3019, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3019) making appropriations for fiscal year 1996 to make a further downpayment toward a balanced budget, and for other purposes

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill.

Pending:

(1) Hatfield modified amendment No. 3466, in the nature of a substitute.

(2) Lautenberg amendment No. 3482 (to amendment No. 3466) to provide funding for programs necessary to maintain essential environmental protection.

(3) Grams amendment No. 3492 (to amendment No. 3466) to establish a lockbox for deficit reduction and revenues generated by tax cuts.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senator from Washington, [Mrs. MURRAY] is recognized to offer an amendment dealing with timber sales, on which there will be 2½ hours equally divided.

The Senator from Washington is recognized.

AMENDMENT NO. 3493 TO AMENDMENT NO. 3466

(Purpose: To repeal the emergency salvage timber sale program)

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I send an amendment to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Washington [Mrs. MURRAY], for herself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BUMPERS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BRADLEY, Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, and Mrs. BOXER, proposes an amendment numbered 3493 to amendment No. 3466.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The text of the amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Amendments Submitted.")

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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